

Masello, Evonne

From: Masello, Evonne
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2013 2:49 PM
To: Tarka, Michelle (michelle.tarka@epa.state.oh.us)
Cc: Beringer, Carrie; Davis, Jim; Waggle, Vince
Subject: Contingency Plan Activation Report 071313
Attachments: Contingency Plan Activation Report 7-13-13.pdf

Michelle,

Attached is the Contingency Plan Activation Report.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Evonne

HERITAGE THERMAL SERVICES

HERITAGE THERMAL SERVICES
1250 St. George Street
East Liverpool, Ohio 43920-3400
Phone: 330-385-7337
Fax: 330-385-7813
www.heritage-thermal.com

OHSAS 18001: 2007
ISO 14001: 2004
ISO 9001: 2008

**July 24, 2013
VIA CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Mr. Scott Nally
Ohio EPA
Lazarus Government Center
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43216-1049

Dear Mr. Nally:

At approximately 12:59 p.m. on July 13, 2013, a pressure surge occurred in the Secondary Combustion Chamber (SCC) at the Heritage Thermal Services (HTS) Facility in East Liverpool, Ohio. This incident resulted in the activation of Heritage Thermal Services' Contingency Plan pursuant to OAC 3745-54-51 (B). In accordance with OAC 3745-54-56 (J), HTS is submitting this written report regarding the incident. The reporting requirements specified in the regulations are shown below in italics, and HTS' response to that requirement is shown in regular print.

- (1) *Name, address, and telephone number of the operator.*

Heritage Thermal Services
1250 St. George Street
East Liverpool, OH 43920
(330) 385-7337

- (2) *Name, address, and telephone number of the facility.*

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(3) *Date, time, and type of incident (e.g. fire explosion).*

At approximately 12:59 p.m. on Saturday, July 13, 2013, a pressure surge occurred in the SCC and propagated through the SCC to the Heat Recovery Boiler (HRB). The outlet ductwork of the HRB was displaced by the surge. There were visible emissions that exited from both kiln seals as well as the dislodged outlet of the HRB. The emissions contained steam and ash, some of which was deposited in the neighborhood to the west of the facility. The operators brought the system under control within minutes of the incident. HTS notified the Ohio EPA at approximately 1:30 p.m. on July 13, 2013 and personnel arrived at the facility shortly thereafter to observe.

Hot ash from the pressure event landed on pallets of vermiculite located near the incineration system causing the packaging to ignite and burn for several minutes. Plant personnel responded and extinguished the fire. The East Liverpool Fire Department arrived at the facility moments later and assisted plant personnel in extinguishing this fire.

HTS' automatic control systems responded properly and initiated an immediate shut-down of waste feed operations. Once the incineration system reached an acceptable temperature, HTS engineers were able to access the components of the Incineration system and assess any damage that may have been caused by the incident. A planned outage to replace the unit's refractory was scheduled to begin on Sunday, July 14th. As a result of this event, this outage was started a day early and repairs will be made concurrently with the replacing of the refractory. This outage was scheduled to take two weeks. All repairs are expected to be completed in that time frame.

(4) *Name and quantity of material(s) involved.*

At this time, HTS believes the event was caused by a large deposit of combustion ash being dislodged from the west wall of the SCC and falling into the quench tank. This ash fall caused some of the water in the quench tank to vaporize instantaneously which resulted in the pressure surge which dislodged the boiler outlet duct and released ash. This incident was not caused by a waste feed. HTS has estimated approximately 761 pounds of ash was released beyond the facility property.

(5) *The extent of injuries, if any.*

There were no injuries associated with this incident.

(6) *An assessment of actual or potential hazards to human health or the environment, where this is applicable.*

Ash expelled from the incineration system was largely deposited on the concrete

surrounding the incinerator. As stated above, approximately 761 pounds of ash was released beyond the facility property. The initial results of the ash indicate there is no cause for concern at this time about adverse health effects from the levels of compounds in the ash.

HTS is continuing to investigate the extent of the impact to the local community. In order to mitigate further contamination in the community, HTS had deployed clean-up crews into the neighborhood to clean houses, pools, and any other items upon request and offered free car washes. HTS has also set up a call center so that residents can contact the company about their concerns.

- (7) *Estimated quantity and disposition of recovered material that resulted from the incident.*

The material involved in the incident was boiler ash. HTS approximated 2,536 pounds of ash was released on-site, inside containment. Ash that collected on plant surfaces was hosed down and routed to the plant run-off collection system. This contaminated water will be managed in accordance with the appropriate regulations. The quantity of ash that was expelled from the system is approximately 761 pounds.

- (8) *Any other information as the director may require.*

The regulatory agency has not requested any additional information.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Stewart Fletcher
General Manager
Heritage Thermal Services

cc: Frank Popotnik - OEPA/DHWM/NEDO
Michelle Tarka - OEPA/DHWM/NEDO (hand deliver)
Bill Jones - ELFD